

REMARKS

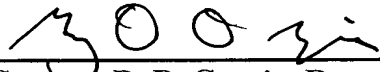
Claims 23-31 including independent claim 23 have been cancelled. New claims 44-58 including independent claims 44 and 54 have been added to the application.

Claims 23-31 have been cancelled due to their non-conforming nature to U.S. Patent and Trademark Office standards. New claims 44-58 again recite a functional element and a functional element assembly as previously elected pursuant to the Examiner's restriction requirement. No new subject matter has been added to the application. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the application, as amended, is now presented in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully solicited. Further and favorable reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action is hereby requested.

Although it is believed that no fee is due for the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Preliminary Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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